

Message

From: Stoker, Michael B. [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=DCB64B4E7EDF48AABE8EF43996A4652E-STOKER, MIC]
Sent: 9/18/2019 7:59:25 PM
To: Lazarus, Jim (Feinstein) [Jim_Lazarus@feinstein.senate.gov]
CC: Meyer, Caitlin (Feinstein) [Caitlin_Meyer@feinstein.senate.gov]
Subject: RE: Biomass Opportunities

Sounds good. Always feel free to reach out if I can be of assistance in anyway.

Best regards,
Michael Stoker
Regional Administrator, Region 9, US-EPA

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

From: Lazarus, Jim (Feinstein) <Jim_Lazarus@feinstein.senate.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 18, 2019 12:58 PM
To: Stoker, Michael B. <stoker.michael@epa.gov>
Cc: Meyer, Caitlin (Feinstein) <Caitlin_Meyer@feinstein.senate.gov>
Subject: RE: Biomass Opportunities

Thanks-we are looking into this issue as well. The Bay Area Council has a group working on it. Some interesting findings about improved ground water retention with thinning brush and over vegetation. Caitlin on our staff, who you may have met in Tahoe, is point on this.

From: Stoker, Michael B. <stoker.michael@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 18, 2019 12:53 PM
To: Lazarus, Jim (Feinstein) <Jim_Lazarus@feinstein.senate.gov>
Subject: Biomass Opportunities

Dear Jim:

I hope all is well. I am following up with you on the legislation Senator Feinstein and Congressman Garamendi discussed at the Tahoe Summit concerning potential funding for biomass facilities in California. At EPA Region 9 we are working with USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service and California Department of Food and Agriculture to form a Compost Work Group as one option to address the impact of excess woody debris from farming operations. Another option we would like to see is for growers to send the woody debris to biomass facilities rather than burning (under permit) the material onsite, which causes significant air pollution. While I cannot be involved with legislation I just wanted to bring to your attention what we are doing in R9 in regards to agriculture and the advantages of providing incentives for growers to use biomass facilities for their excess wood debris. Call or email me if you have any questions or I can be of assistance to you and Senator Feinstein in regards to providing information pertaining to this issue.

Best regards,
Michael Stoker
Regional Administrator, Region 9, US-EPA

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